

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01
USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-05 /045 W
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R 101240Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8749
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON
CNO WASHDC
COMIDEASTFOR
SECDEF WASHDC//ISA//
USCINCEUR
USS BOWEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4496

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, KU
SUBJECT: KUWAITI REACTION TO VISIT OF USS BOWEN

1. MIDEATFOR FAST FRIGATE USS BOWEN MADE ROUTINE
OPERATIONAL VISIT TO KUWAIT AUGUST 2-3. AS IN THE CASES OF
TWO PREVIOUS US NAVY SHIP VISITS, THE GOK RECEPTION WAS
WARM AND COOPERATIVE, THOUGH THE ABSENCE OF SOME KEY
OFFICIALS ON ROUTINE SUMMER HOLIDAY LESSENED THE OFFICIAL
AND PRESS IMPACT. THE GOK KEPT THE SAME CLOSE AND COURTEOUS
CONTROL OF ALL CREW LIBERTY GROUPS AS IN PREVIOUS
VISITS. SHIP'S OFFICERS ENJOYED UNRESTRICTED MOVEMENT AND
FREE ACCESS TO LOCAL SPORTS/SOCIAL CLUBS.

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2. AS USUAL, THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED KUWAIT OIL CO. (KOC)
WAS THE ADMINISTRATIVE HOST FOR THE SHIP. SCHEDULE
INCLUDED: SIZEABLE AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION FOR OFFICERS
(WELL-ATTENDED BY KUWAITIS FOR THIS TIME OF YEAR); ADCM'S
LUNCH FOR CAPTAIN AND EXEC; CAPTAIN'S LUNCH ON BOARD FOR
KOC OFFICIALS AND KUWAIT NAVY OFFICERS; AND SHOPPING TRIPS
AND VARIOUS SPORTS EVENTS FOR CREW, INCLUDING SOCCER MATCH

WITH KOC TEAM, USING KUWAITI NAVY ESCORTS AND ARMY
TRANSPORT.

3. EMBASSY CONSIDERS USS BOWEN VISIT TO HAVE BEEN
SUCCESSFUL PROMOTION OF US INTERESTS, DIMMED ONLY
SLIGHTLY BY THE NORMAL SUMMER ABSENCE OF KUWAITI CNO
AND SOME OTHER OFFICIALS WHO WOULD NORMALLY BE
CONTACTED DURING THE COURSE OF THE VISIT. MEDIA COVERAGE
OF THE VISIT WAS NIL, WHICH WAS UNUSUAL BUT EXPLICABLE
IN TERMS OF THE HOLIDAY ABSENCE OF THE LOCAL OFFICIALS
WHO NORMALLY PROVOKE NEWS COVERAGE OF VISITS BY USN
OFFICERS.

4. FOR USS BOWEN. EMBASSY'S COMPLIMENTS TO CAPT.
TOM VAUGHT, OFFICERS AND MEN FOR EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATIONAL
ACTIVITY ASHORE AND HOSPITALITY ABOARD. IT WAS A PLEASURE
HAVING YOU IN KUWAIT.
MAESTRONE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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